

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please replace the Abstract of the Specification on page 40 of Applicants' patent application with the following:

Abstract

~~A system and method for providing~~ Illustrative embodiments provide an airline variable routed capacity management system. ~~With the system and method,~~ A user, at time of booking, identifies only the departure and arrival airports, the dates of departure and return flights, and the travel window, *i.e.* ~~the amount of travel time the user is willing to endure to travel between the departure and arrival airports, or vice versa.~~ At time of booking, there is no blocking of travel lanes since there is no reservation of seat assignments or flights but only the guarantee that the ~~The airline guarantees to~~ will provide some flight itinerary between the departure and arrival airports that meets the travel window on the departure and return dates. ~~The particular~~ Particular flights or seat assignments are not identified and are not reserved. At some time prior to the departure date, the user may again access the system ~~of the present invention~~ to obtain a listing of flight itineraries that meet the travel window on the dates and between the cities identified by user at booking. Based on the listing of possible flight itineraries, a user may select one of the flight itineraries and then obtain their seat and flight assignments ~~based on the flight itinerary selected.~~